

THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

Vol. xxxix.] WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY, 1863. [No. 2.

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

Ten of the Vice Presidents of this Society, the Right Rev. Bishop MEADE, of Virginia; the Hon. THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, of New Jersey; the Rev. GEORGE W. BETHUNE, of New York; Rev. JOHN WHEELER, D. D., of Vermont; JOHN NICKERBACKER, Esq., of New York; the Rev. NATHAN BANGS, D. D.; the Hon. SAMUEL P. VINTON, of Ohio; Hon. ELISHA WHITTLESEY, of Ohio; Hon. WILLIAM APPLETON, of Massachusetts; and JAMES FULTON, Esq., of New York, have died since our last anniversary. All were devoted to great objects of Christian benevolence; and to these early and able friends was this institution indebted, during many years, for very much of its reputation and success.

EMIGRATION.

The civil war, and the various questions which have divided and distracted the minds of our free people of color, have prevented any large emigration to Liberia during the year. But two small expeditions have left Baltimore for that Republic—the bark Justina, which sailed on the 10th of June, with eighteen emigrants, and the Mary Caroline Stevens with forty-seven emigrants on the 15th of November. A larger number had been expected from Tennessee and Kentucky, but the state of the times prevented their

departure. In the *Justina* supplies were sent out for the support of emigrants, and some four thousand dollars for defraying expenses and making improvements in Liberia, while the principal part of the cargo (the whole cost of which was \$30,000) was shipped to fill orders sent out by citizens of Liberia.

In addition to the supplies for the emigrants, goods to the value of several thousand dollars were sent out in the *Stevens* for expenses and trade. All the emigrants by this expedition, with the exception of a single family from Maryland, were from free States; and among the cabin passengers were the Rev. JOHN SEYS, United States Agent for Recaptured Africans; EDWARD S. MORRIS, Esq., who visits Liberia with Philanthropic views, and to promote its agricultural interests, with several individuals and families, under the care of the Presbyterian and Episcopal Board of Missions. Five emigrants have also sailed from New York during the year.

COMMISSIONERS SENT FROM LIBERIA TO THE U. S.

The Legislature of Liberia, at its last session, authorized the President of this Republic to appoint suitable commissioners, citizens of Liberia, to the colored people in the United States, "to present the cause of Liberia to the descendants of Africa in that country, and to lay before them the claims that Africa has upon their sympathies, and the paramount advantages that would accrue to them, their children, and their race, by their return to their fatherland."

On the 18th of March, President Benson appointed as Commissioners for this service, Reverends Messrs. Alex. Crummell, and Edw. W. Blyden, and J. D. Johnson, Esq., who early thereafter came to the United States. The Executive Committee cordially approved of this movement of the Liberian Government, and of the object proposed by the Commissioners, and cordially commended them to the respectful and favorable regards of all the friends of this Society. These Commissioners visited many of the Northern States, and most of the principal cities, exchanged thoughts with many of their colored brethren, conferred with them in their religious associations, addressed them and their congregations, and both publicly and in private, exhibited to them Liberia as opening to men of color advantages and prospects to be sought in vain in any other country. We are

well assured that these labors were not without good effect; and the volumes mostly relating to Africa, published by Messrs. Crummell and Blyden while in this country, embody facts and arguments of great value, and will live as pious and eloquent memorials of their concern for their Republic and their race.

PRESIDENT BENSON'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

President Benson, accompanied by Ex-President Roberts and lady, and several other Liberians, arrived in London on the 12th of April, found his health improved, and met with a cordial reception from Consul General Ralston, and many other friends of Liberia. He received gratifying attentions, and addressed several distinguished assemblies. He brought the condition and interests of Liberia to the consideration of the English Government, arranged for the settlement of the difficulties that had arisen, through the slave trade between Liberia and Spain, and concluded a treaty of amity and commerce with the minister of the United States, which has recently been submitted to the Senate by the President of the United States, and since ratified by our Government. He subsequently visited the continent, and enjoyed agreeable interviews with many eminent persons. He returned to England, and having addressed the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool; and, also, a dinner given to the foreign consuls of that city, embarked on the monthly steamer on the 24th of October, having been absent about seven months from his African home. The President, writes Mr. Ralston, "has gained golden opinions wherever he has been in Great Britain and on the continent, and his visit will be of great benefit to his rising young country in making it known and extending commercial relations between it and the continent of Europe."

EX-PRESIDENT ROBERTS.

President Benson did not, as was his original desire, visit the United States, while the friends of Ex-President Roberts and the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia were gratified that the latter gentleman spent a few weeks in our country, occupied especially with the affairs of that college over which he presides. Of that college we can give no account so satisfactory and complete as that contained in the last report of the Massachusetts State Colonization Society, from the pen of its distinguished Secretary,

the Rev. Joseph Tracey, D. D., justly regarded as beyond all others the founder of that institution:

LIBERIA COLLEGE.

"Our last report," says the Secretary, "announced that the legal difficulties which had for several years impeded the completion of the college buildings had been removed, and the work on them resumed. We are now happy to announce that the buildings are completed and ready for use.

"The plans and specifications for the buildings were drawn by L. Briggs, Jr., Esq., architect of Boston, under the direction of the trustees, in consultation with President Roberts, with a careful regard to economy, in view of the uses of the building, the nature of the climate, and the probable necessity of future enlargement. The main building is seventy feet long by forty-five feet wide, and three stories in height, on a foundation of Liberia granite, and surrounded by a verandah, eight feet wide, on an iron frame, the posts of which are inserted into blocks of granite. It contains apartments for two members of the faculty and their families, who will reside in the building and have the immediate oversight of the students; a dining-room sufficient for these families and the students; a room for the library and philosophical apparatus; a hall to be used for a chapel, lecture-room, or any other purpose for which all the students need to be convened; rooms for recitation and for study in classes; dormitories for students, and the necessary offices, store-rooms, and other accommodations. The kitchen is a detached building, in easy communication with the dining-room. The eleven dormitories furnish all desirable accommodation for twenty-two members of the regular college classes, which is as great a number as can be expected for some years.— They may, without discomfort, receive twice that number; and when it becomes necessary, more dormitories may be added with little expense.

"The Legislature of the Republic has done liberally. It has granted the site of twenty acres, on which the college stands, and where it must remain till removed by the concurring votes of its Trustees and the Legislature. It has granted, as an endowment, one thousand acres of land in each of the four counties, to be selected by the trustees. It has appropriated six hundred dollars, to enable the professors to visit foreign institutions. It has given the college a carefully revised charter, the result of the best thinking in Liberia, aided by able counsel in the United States, and satisfactory to both Boards of Trustees who are concerned in its management. And it appears ready to grant any other favors in its power which the best interests of the college may be found to require.

"This delay has not been wholly useless. It has secured the settlement, in the minds of Liberians generally, before opening

the college, of questions which otherwise would almost certainly have come up, and might have made trouble, at some future time. It has also enabled the Trustees of Donations, to whom the appointment for the present belongs, to find a Faculty in Liberia, and thus to avoid the most formidable obstacle to the successful establishment of the College, viz: the difficulty of finding suitable men elsewhere; inducing them to accept the appointment; securing their safe acclimation; and above all, making them acceptable after their arrival.

"The college had already an able president, the Hon. J. J. Roberts, under whose superintendence the buildings were erected. The following appointments were made August 9, 1861, viz:

"Hon. J. J. Roberts, Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law.

"Rev. Alexander Crummell, Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy, and of the English Language and Literature.

"Rev. Edward W. Blyden, Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

"Till other arrangements are made, Prof. Crummell is to give instructions in Logic and Rhetoric, and in History; Prof. Blyden in the Hebrew and French Languages; and the two, conjointly, in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

"Professor Crummell, being necessarily detained for a time in the United States, engaged in procuring books for the library. He is understood to have procured about four thousand volumes, many of them very valuable and difficult to be obtained. A list of these, with the donors, will probably appear, from the proper source, in due time; but it seems a duty now to mention the gift of about six hundred volumes by the corporation of Harvard College, through J. L. Sibley, Esq., librarian.

"A part of these books have been sent out, and have arrived. With them have been sent about seven hundred specimens for the cabinet of mineralogy, gathered from most parts of the world between the Mississippi and the Ganges, and wanting only two or three specimens, which are already promised, for a complete elementary cabinet. A small but well-selected box of specimens in conchology accompanied them.

"For the inauguration of the college, January 23, 1862, was selected, as a time near the close of the session of the Legislature when the attendance of the proper persons would be most convenient. On that day a procession was formed in front of the house of President Roberts, and marched, led by a band of music, to the college buildings. The exercises were sacred music, reading the scriptures, prayer, music by the band, addresses by Chief Justice Drayton, President Roberts, and Professor Blyden, appropriate resolutions moved by Hon. D. B. Warner, and adopted by the Trustees, and a closing Doxology. The Legislature ordered the addresses to be printed at the public expense.

"The way seemed now fully prepared for the formation of college classes and regular recitations; but the appointment of

two professors as commissioners from the Republic to the colored people of the United States, compelled its postponement for a few months.

"The endowment of this college, and its support till endowed, will demand the earnest consideration of the friends of Christian civilization in Africa. The funds remaining in the hands of the Trustees of Donations, after erecting the college buildings, are well invested, yielding a satisfactory income. But their income is altogether inadequate to the support of the college, and no good financier would willingly encroach upon or disturb the principal. The New York Colonization Society has assumed the payment of Professor Blyden's salary, from the income of its Fulton fund, and will support several beneficiaries from its Bloomfield fund.

"If more than a very few scholars are to be educated in this college for many years to come, it is plain that some of them must receive pecuniary aid, as few Liberians are able to spare the services of their sons, and support them in college, without aid. The best form of rendering such aid is doubtless by establishing scholarships yielding a certain sum annually, to be used in assisting students who show that they deserve it. The annual amount should be from half to the whole of a student's necessary expenses.

"The New York Colonization Society, in its late annual report, says: 'Perhaps in no more certain way can perennial blessings be assured to the race in Africa than by the adequate endowment of professorships and scholarships in this college.' 'Twenty scholarships, founded this year, would do much to insure permanence and freedom to the future population of Liberia; while their prosperity would attract thousands of our aspiring colored population to become participators by emigrating thither.'

And that Society, at its annual meeting:

"Resolved, That to aid a thorough education among the people of Liberia endowments of scholarships in the Liberia College are urgently needed, and this Society will thankfully receive, and faithfully apply, gifts intrusted to it for that object."

The Executive Committee, at the suggestion of Professor Blyden, presented to the college of Liberia an entire well bound set of the Annual Reports of the Society, with the African Repository, making in all more than fifty volumes. They were sent out in the Mary Caroline Stevens.

INDEPENDENCE OF LIBERIA ACKNOWLEDGED.

To Liberia and her friends the most cheering event of the year is the establishment of diplomatic intercourse between our Govern-

ment and that Republic. "A bill authorizing the President of the United States to appoint diplomatic representatives to the Republic of Hayti and Liberia respectively passed the United States Senate by a vote of 32 ayes and 7 nays, and subsequently the House of Representatives by that of 86 ayes and 37 nays, and was approved by the President." While it has been truly said "that the Government of the United States has never regarded Liberia otherwise than as an independent State," and while by the new Constitution and declaration, issued by Liberia, (in 1847,) setting forth her true character as an independent State, she stood prepared to negotiate treaties with foreign nations, yet this recent act of our Government announces our views of her importance, and places her on commercial equality with the most favored nations.

LIBERIAN AGRICULTURE AND TRADE.

Since our last general meeting, Liberia has made progress both in agriculture and trade. The following statement of exports from Monrovia for the quarter ending the 30th of June last, is copied from the Liberia Herald, of August 19, 1862:

Palm oil to Holland.....	27,000	galls.
England	41,000	do.
United States.....	25,000	do.
Other parts.....	17,000	do.
	<hr/>	120,000 galls.
Camwood to England.....	22	tons.
United States.....	15	do.
Holland.....	1½	do.
Other parts.....	23	do.
	<hr/>	61½ tons.
Ivory to Holland.....	224	lbs.
England.....	105	do.
Other parts.....	100	do.
	<hr/>	420 lbs.
Palm kernals to Holland.....	1,240	bushels.
Malagetta pepper.....	2,773	lbs.

In harbor for clearance barque Mowa, Frederickton, Hamburg, 70,000 gallons palm oil, and 20 tons of camwood.

The Liberia Herald states justly that Liberia is growing in importance. The brig Ann has arrived at New York, from Monrovia, with 20,000 gallons of palm oil, 6,000 pounds of Liberia coffee, 30 barrels of syrup, 21 barrels of sugar, 5,000 lbs. of spices, 3½

tons of camwood, and other articles. The Greyhound has since returned to the same port with a full cargo of palm oil and barwood. Fifteen hundred pounds of Liberia coffee sold in Philadelphia the last summer at thirty cents a pound.

The agriculture of Liberia has increased rapidly during the year, especially the products necessary for subsistence, and the crops of sugar cane and coffee. Several citizens of Liberia have from 1,000 to 3,000 pounds of coffee, and several are profitably engaged in the culture of the sugar cane. One has the promise of a crop of 30,000 pounds of sugar, and has also purchased 300 acres of land on the Junk river, which he represents as good land for either cotton or the sugar cane. The labor of the apprenticed recaptured Africans has contributed very much to the improvement of Liberian agriculture; they are represented as making rapid progress in civilization. Says the New York Colonization Journal: "Fortunes can be made by industrious labor in Liberia, either at cotton, coffee, or sugar cultivation, and the only wonder is, that to a soil and climate so favorable for the production of these important tropical products, and where land is free, thousands of our poor and unemployed and poorly paid colored men refuse to emigrate and participate in these opportunities. With cotton at fifty cents a pound, coffee at thirty cents, brown sugar at ten cents a pound, no healthy man in Liberia can remain poor three years without criminal idleness.

NEW JERSEY SETTLEMENT.

The committee have sought to fulfil the views of the Board of Directors for the founding of new settlements, especially that of Finley east and interior, from Grand Bassa on the high lands, purchased by the New Jersey Colonization Society, and to which their attention has for some years been directed. The movements of the Society for this end have been restrained by the want of emigrants. Early this year, President Benson gave directions for the opening of a road, and the construction of a Recepticle and other houses at the chosen site; and the Executive Committee appropriated the amount entrusted to them for this object by the New Jersey Society, concluding from estimates supplied by the Liberian Government, that the work would be completed by an amount furnished by that Government equal to that appropriated through the Committee by the New Jersey Society.

We are informed that several houses at Finley are already occupied by settlers from the neighboring settlements, while the road and the receptacle are expected to be ready for the emigrants by the Stevens, who have chosen Finley as their permanent home.

SLAVERY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Since our last anniversary, slavery has been abolished in this District by act of Congress, and \$100,000 appropriated to aid in colonization, under direction of the President, in Hayti or Liberia, or some other country beyond the limits of the United States of free persons of color, and including those just emancipated in this District, who may choose to avail themselves of this act—not to exceed \$100 to the individual. The whole number of servants reported by the commissioners as emancipated under this act, and for whom compensation is awarded, is 2,989, while the entire number made free by the act, is 3,100—compensation being withheld for adequate cause in the view of the commissioners.

MR. ORCUTT, TRAVELING SECRETARY.

The Rev JOHN ORCUTT, traveling Secretary of the Society, has been employed with his usual energy in several of the States, mostly in New England, but recently in New Jersey. In the several States visited the last year, he has seen most gratifying evidence that our cause is gaining upon the confidence and sympathy of the public mind. Everywhere people manifest a disposition to hear on the subject, and a growing willingness to contribute to the object. Nothing is necessary but patience and perseverance in prosecuting the appropriate work of the Society to insure still greater success. But to accomplish all that is desirable and practicable, our plans and doings, and those of our auxiliaries must be characterized by wisdom and harmony.

AGENCIES.

The state of the country has prevented an increased number of agencies, and but two have been engaged for the Society during the year, the Rev. Franklin Butler for the States of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, and the Rev. B. O. Plimpton in a few of the northern counties of Ohio. The former reports a uniform,

courteous reception by the clergymen and people—the almost entire disappearance of opposition to our work—a decided increase of interest in it, especially among young men, and an increase of receipts cheering to us as it is commendable in the donors. For particulars of Mr. Butler's labors we must refer to his report, merely quoting his remarks, "that the general interest in our enterprise, it is believed, is greater than it has been for years."

The field of Rev. B. O. Plimpton has been narrow, but attended with great labor and energy, and well repaying his earnest efforts. He has been devoted for several years to the interests of this Society, and is much encouraged of late in his indefatigable exertions.

AFRICAN EXPLORATIONS.

The Royal Geographical Society reports the continuance of the admiralty surveys of African rivers, and that many travelers are making discoveries in unknown and unvisited regions. The river Volta, the Ogun, with its branches; the Zambesi and Rovuma have been partially explored, and skeletons of maps sent home for publication. The result of the ascent of the Rovuma, which it had been thought might open a safe way to the vast regions of the Niassa, was not satisfactory, so that Dr. Livingstone revisited the Zambesi, and established the University Mission in the heathenly position to be found near the banks of the Shire. Dr. Livingstone has since visited the west coast of the Niassa, in an open boat, (200 miles) but on certain account was obtained of its northern termination. Captain Burton is now her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, and has visited many parts of Benin and Biafra. The Geographical Society has cherished an intense desire to solve the problem of the sources of the White Nile, and look anxiously for intelligence from Captain Speke, who was so long the companion of Captain Burton in the Somali country. A few months may decide what has so long been a question to geographers.

AFRICAN MISSIONS.

Mission Stations now are established in Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Africa, and their light and influence felt in the barbarous and unknown regions of the interior. In Egypt, and Abyssinia, and throughout Southern Africa, at Abeokuta and some distance up the Niger, at the Gaboon, Corisco, and Cape Palmas. In all the dis-

tricts of Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Gambia, and along the shores of the Mediterranean, men of God have taken their stations to proclaim the Word of Eternal Life. The past year their numbers and influence have increased.

SLAVE TRADE.

A treaty has been formed during the year, between the United States and Great Britain, for the abolition of the African slave trade, which it is hoped may prove efficient, though this hope is darkened by late advices from that country. Late accounts received in England, speak of a recent revival of this traffic, notwithstanding the large fleet of cruisers employed for its suppression.

"On the 29th of October, a large screw steamer shipped upwards of 920 slaves at Whydah, and got to sea, although several British cruisers were keeping a sharp lookout after her. Other vessels are also reported to have escaped with cargoes of slaves."

A writer from Khartoun, on the White Nile, says that the legitimate trade of that place, has given way to traffic in slaves and ivory. Plunder and murder are its constant attendants.

During the year the Government of Liberia appointed the Rev. John B. Pinney, L. L. D., Corresponding Secretary of the New York State Colonization Society, for some years a Missionary in Africa, subsequently Governor of Liberia, to the office of Consul General of that Republic.

BENEVOLENCE OF THE SOCIETY.

This society was founded in benevolence to the African race. The great men who gave it existence saw the wide and comprehensive influence it must exert upon the destinies of Africa and all classes of her children. Constitutionally limited in its direct action to free persons of color, it has operated for good in all directions, and many benevolent masters have generously contributed to its funds, and availed themselves of the opportunity it has afforded of bestowing liberty in Liberia upon their slaves. And this result was predicted by the fathers of this Society at its origin. "The effect of this Society," said its first president, Judge Washington, from Virginia, at its first annual meeting, "if its prosperity shall equal our wishes, it will be alike propitious to every interest of our domestic society, and should

it lead, as we may fairly hope it will, to the slow but gradual abolition of slavery, it will wipe from our political institutions the only blot which stains them; and in palliation of which we shall not be at liberty to plead the excuse of moral necessity, until we shall have honestly exerted all the means which we possess for its extinction."

Let it be remembered that the General Government of the United States and this Institution have mutually co-operated in the suppression of the slave trade and in the care of the recaptured Africans, from the earliest days of the Society; that through the skill and courage of officers of our navy, possession was first obtained of what has since risen to be recognized by many nations as the independent Republic of Liberia; that contracts have been repeatedly made by the President with the Society for the support and civilization of large numbers of recaptured Africans, and that funds appropriated by Congress, have been paid over for this object, through their Board to the Government of Liberia, with advantage to all concerned.

Our present President and many of his predecessors have expressed a deep interest in Liberia.

Let these sentiments animate the friends of this Society and of our country, and another quarter of the world will be added to civilized and Christian communities, and this nation look with complacency upon the fruits of her own benevolence, upon the regenerated character of Africa, her renovated and rich tropical fields, her abounding commerce, her institutions of education, enterprise and piety, and become partakers in her joy.

We close this report in sorrow. Since it was commenced, this Society and the country have been deprived by death of a venerable benefactor, the Hon. ELISHA WHITTLESEY, who early advocated the cause of this Society, was for many years one of its Vice Presidents, and chairman of the Executive Committee, at all times watchful and zealous, and able in defending its interests. A volume might be written to exhibit the rare virtues of this excellent man, of whom, during his long life of eighty years, it may be said, from early manhood, he seldom, if ever, lost a day, or passed one without rendering service to mankind.

Solemnly are we admonished to hold the things of time subordinate to those of eternity.

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

Forty-sixth Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society was held on the 20th of January, 1863, in the Rev. Dr. Sunderland's Church, in Washington city, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M., when

The Hon. J. H. B. LATROBE, President of the Society, took the chair. Prayer was offered for the divine blessing on the occasion and the cause of the Society, by the Rev. Phineas D. Gurley, D. D., of Washington city.

Extracts from the Annual Report were then read by the Rev. R. R. Gurley, Corresponding Secretary of the Society.

Admiral Foote of the Navy, who had command of our squadron on the coast of Africa, and expressed much interest in African Colonization, then addressed the audience in some practical remarks:

Admiral FOOTE addressed the vast audience, to the following effect:

MR. PRESIDENT: The few remarks I propose to make on this occasion will be practicable.

The present condition of our country has given to the American Colonization Society a significance which it never had before. Whatever differences of opinion may have existed hitherto in regard to the object, scope, management, and bearings of this Society, it would now seem that it is indispensable as an instrumentality of good to the suffering black man, both slave and free.

There never can be peace in the world, until the *status* of the negro is defined. Where shall he live? How shall he be instructed? What shall be his social position? What are his capacities? What his rights, natural and civil? These are questions that agitate the world. Statesmen, as well as philanthropists, are now engaged in solving this great problem. Under these circumstances it would be impolitic in the extreme to ignore this institution, so well adapted to accomplish the great end in view. No; let the statesman, the Christian, philanthropist, and all true patriots give their influence in sustaining this, the only Society of its colonial character which has thus far been successful in its operations. This success may be conclusively shown by giving a brief statement of the rise and character of colonies.

The history of colonies is an interesting history. From the earliest period down to the present time, colonies have been formed from a multiplicity of motives. Military colonies, penal colonies, and colonies founded on religious considerations, as exhibited by

the Puritans of New England, show abundantly the varied character of colonies, as well as the motives upon which they were founded. It is not, therefore, surprising, in view of the fact that, with us, in the United States, containing a large free as well as slave population, that the idea of forming a colony for the benefit of the colored population, should have been entertained.

In the early days of the Republic, Jefferson and Marshall, with several prominent statesmen of the North, endeavored to remedy the evil of so large a colored population in our own country. A suitable location for them was sought in the lands of the West. Spain and Portugal were also sounded on the subject, with reference to a place in South America or the West Indies; but their schemes were valueless, as they wanted the main requisite, that Africa itself should share in the undertaking.

When Africa was selected in the year 1816, and the American Colonization Society was formed, who could have anticipated the present condition of our country. It would be irrelevant for me, on this occasion, to discuss the causes which have led to this condition. I leave that to statesmen; my province having been rather to aid in crushing the rebellion than in commenting on its character and its history. But in view of securing an outlet to the free colored population of the country, and as a political measure, Liberia becomes of incalculable importance, as it now stands, an independent republic, ready to receive all the emigrants we can send her, and it cannot be overestimated.

To be more specific: in the formation of the Colonization Society, history shows us that the multiplicity of motives incident to its establishment prevailed in no small degree. The increase of national prosperity, the promotion of national commerce, the relief of national difficulties, the preservation of national quiet, were all urged upon the different sections of the country, and upon the different orders; while the higher Christian philanthropic aims to be fulfilled by these efforts were not overlooked.

These were truly efforts of christianity throwing its solid intelligence and earnest affections into action for the conquest of a continent, by returning the Africans to their home and making this conquest a work of faith and labor of love. Thus we see a higher superiority in these schemes of African Colonization than were to be found in the Dutch, Portuguese, or the English colonies at Sierra Leone; and therefore, by the blessing of God, this Society stands to-day a successful experiment, while all others have either partially or wholly failed. In proof of this, permit me, as an eyewitness, to state a few facts in relation to Liberia, as facts are the strongest arguments.

In the first place: I have had an experience of two years in command of an African cruiser for the suppression of the slave trade and the protection of American commerce on the coast, and in co-operation with the British squadron, under the Ashburton treaty, when we captured three slavers, and suppressed the atrocious traffic in Southern Africa.

Liberia embraces an extent of 600 miles, in Northern Africa, and has crushed forever that trade within its domain; and just so far as Africa is colonized, so far the slave trade will be annihilated.

In the second place: What is the character and influence of Liberia upon Africa and upon its colonies? I visited Liberia several times during my cruise on the African coast, where we found in full operation a Republic whose independence had been acknowledged by England, France, Prussia, Brazil, and since then by our own Government. We visited the people in their schools, on their farms, in their workshops, in their religious assemblies, courts of justice, and in their Congress; and bearing in mind the character and condition of their race in this country, we found comparatively a degree of order, intelligence, and thrift far surpassing that of any of the colored people in the United States. The debates in Congress, in many instances, would have done no discredit to many of our debating societies, while the messages of President Roberts will compare most favorably with those of many of the Governors of our States.

As the country becomes settled and the character of its diseases better understood, the acclimating fever is less dreaded. In fact, it now rarely proves fatal. The statistics, as President Roberts informed me, show some three per cent. smaller number of deaths than in New England and Canada among the same population. The thermometer seldom rises higher than 85°, nor falls below 70° during the year.

The products of the soil are varied and abundant, capable of sustaining an immense population. The want of agricultural industry, rather than the capacity of the country to yield richly the fruits of the earth, has been the difficulty with the Liberians. With well-directed labor, of one-half the amount required among the farmers of the United States, a large surplus of the earth's productions, over the demands of home consumption, might be gathered. The country certainly possesses elements of great prosperity.

The country now belongs to the colonists; they are lords of the soil, and in intercourse with them it is soon observed that they are free from that oppressive sense of inferiority which marks the colored people of this country.

In religion Liberia compares favorably with any country. The number of Christian churches is large, and on Sunday a quietness prevails rarely seen in any country. It is true that some of the lower forms, in the vivid conception of spiritual things, may characterize the people; but far preferable is that than the tendency of our higher civilization towards attempting to bring the mysteries of our holy faith within the scope of human reason. It is true that Liberia, like all other places, furnishes its full quota of people showing the depravity of human nature. You will find there men who will rob hen-roosts, and intrigue for office, but this does not arise from the people being black, but because men are men.

The experiment therefore as to its effect is designed to impart in-

struction to such a race from a higher one. It has had its success, and promises more. The heroism of the Christian missionary is still needed, for like all sinful men, the African needs faith, christian faith, and that faith we trust will overshadow the continent, through the instrumentality, at least in degree, of Christian colonists in Liberia. We must remember that the African have never had a Socrates to talk wisdom to them, nor a Cyrus, who was not a slave merchant, nor a Pythagoras, to teach that kindness was a virtue. Hence, the difficulty which the Christian Missionary has had with them, has been to satisfy their minds as to the miraculous phenomenon of there being a good man.

The Republic of Liberia contains a population of 200,000 inhabitants; not more than one twentieth of this number are American colonists. Its growth has been gradual and healthy. The government, from its successful administration by blacks alone, for the last fifteen years, appears to be fully established, and with all its short comings, I would say to the colored man in this country, who regards the highest interest of his children to young men of activity and enterprise, that Liberia affords the strongest attractions. I presume that this Society considers that the colored man has his rights, one of which is to stay in this country, the land of his birth, if he prefers it, the other is, to go to Liberia, if he prefers that, and better his social, moral and political condition.

I would not join in any attempt to crush out the aspirations of any class of men in this country. But it is an actual fact, whatever may be thought of it, that here the colored man has never risen to that position which every one should occupy among his fellows. For, supposing the wishes of the philanthropist towards him to be fully accomplished, secure him his political rights, unfetter him in body and intellect, cultivate him in taste even, and while nominally free, he is still in bondage, for freedom must be the prerogative of the white, as well as to the black man, and the white man must also be left free to form his most intimate social relations, and he is not, and never has been disposed, in this country, to unite himself with a caste marked by so broad a distinction as exist between the two races. The testimony, on these points, of those who have had abundant advantages for observation has been uniform and conclusive. For the colored man himself, then for his children, Liberia is an open city of refuge. He there may walk the earth in his full manhood, and he may there become a freeman, not only in name, but a freeman in deed and in truth.

The Hon. Mr. KAYSON then addressed the Society :

MR. PRESIDENT: For forty-six years the American Colonization Society has pursued the unobtrusive tenor of its way. The auspices of its birth beamed with the light of Heaven. The spirit of true Christianity infused its purposes. Its foundations were adjusted in the midst of prayers by the faithful; its rising walls were rec-

tified by the hands of patriots; with some periods of sunshine, other periods of storm, and still other periods, perhaps more dangerous than either, of indifference, it still survives, and slowly marches toward the fuller accomplishment of its original designs, in the midst of great national changes, physical as well as political.

Sir, when your beneficent Society was launched upon its honorable career, no iron thread, spun from the bowels of the earth, hung either way from the summit of the Alleghanies, eastward to the shores of the Atlantic, westward to the Mediterranean waters of the Mississippi; and along which a vehicle of fire now drags a reluctant train laden with the wealth of a continent. At that time no magical wire, charged with a mysterious element of nature, floated over the snow-clad summits of mountain ranges, spanning half the earth, and whispering the secrets of the Pacific to the cities of the Atlantic within the ticking of a watch. Neither forest-clad, nor iron-clad monsters of the sea were then hurled across the great ocean, or against an enemy by a giant chained within their own timbers, defying adverse winds and angry waves. Your Society has lived to see all this. It has seen much more, and in God's eye a greater thing than these. Upon a distant continent, almost abandoned of civilization, almost destitute of Christianity, it has itself kindled a beacon light, radiating the beams alike of Christianity and of civilization. It has opened a door to the unknown interior of a great continent. It has taken a stone which the builders of our Government rejected, and has made it the chief corner stone of Africa. A commonwealth rests upon it, with all its executive, judicial, and legislative departments; and with its military, educational, and religious organizations. It is growing from within and from without. Recognized as a lawful Government some years ago by the first cabinets of Europe, it has now been recognized by our own, which no longer deems it beneath its dignity to exchange profitably its commerce, under international regulations of mutual advantage, with the people of another race. Your Society has already witnessed this degree of progress. It has under the blessing of a good Providence, educed all this in a less period, and with less intermediate disaster than that which accompanied the earliest white settlements on this continent. In addition to this, you have presented a mighty moral influence, and a very considerable physical resistance, against the most execrable traffic which ever stained the history of human transactions. You have, indeed, often converted the traffic itself into a blessing to its victims, and added power by it to your colony.

Thus, as I read your history, you have navigated your lone ship from America to Africa, anxiously avoiding on one hand the maelstrom of political strife, and on the other the threatening rocks of self interest and of prejudice.

In the views which I briefly offer to-night, it is my purpose to follow this traditional policy of your Society.

The noble dead, whose voices seem still to urge the interests of

colonization; the munificent humanity of Bushrod Washington, your first President; the liberal spirit of Crawford, of Georgia, the the instinctive sympathy with human progress, and the magnificent manhood of Clay, of Kentucky; the broad and deep sense of Andrew Jackson, of Tennessee; the humane spirit of Rush, of Pennsylvania, and John Taylor of Caroline, and Bayard of New Jersey; the eloquent force and sagacity of Robert G. Harper, of Maryland, the genius of Walter Jones, and of Key, whose name is inseparably woven with the flag of his country; the memory of of all these, and of other noblemen of God's own knighting, your early patrons and managers, bind me alike to candor, to patriotism, and to humanity in considering.

THE AFRICAN QUESTION.

It is to this country what the Roman question is to Europe, only more important, more imminent. The problem presented to the founders of your Society a half century ago, before railroads, before telegraphs, before ocean steamers, remains still the problem of to-day. Notwithstanding the demonstration of Euclid, some mathematicians still announce the discovery of a rule for squaring the circle. So, now, notwithstanding the demonstrations of the Almighty, inventive politicians announce extraordinary solutions of this problem. One says bind the African on this continent in indissoluble bonds. Give him no means; if possible, extinguish the desire for development and progress in the scale of civilization; teach him no letters; give him no books; rivet him like Prometheus to the eternal rock of servitude; deny him all legal rights of marriage and of parentage; deprive him of free will; subject him to the will of another. Direct what faculties he has to physical production, for the benefit of another. Let his merit or his extraordinary diligence go to the emolument of the master, but in no case to the elevation of the slave. Contempt for the color, without respect for the quality, is the maxim. Build the foundation of society from this quarry; but whatever the grain of any slab, however fine the polish it might take, whatever the demands of the edifice, let none of this marble rise in the superstructure. Let the African in America be either a perpetual slave, or an outcast, an outlaw.

This, in the plain language of results, is the solution presented by one very large class of people, extending more or less over all parts of the United States at this moment.

Elsewhere we hear another solution. Its current runs thus: The African is here without his fault. Give back to him, here, at once, the physical freedom, at least, to which he would have been entitled on his original continent. Give him a status in the courts which shall recognize the humanity of his race, rather than its vendibility. Guarantee to him that primary element of civilization, the family relation with all its rights. Give him the alphabet and all its combinations to which his capacity shall be found equal. Give him wages adequate to his labor. Impose no other restraints

upon him than are imposed on other laborers. Then let him stay forever, as a race, upon the same soil, and in the same climate with the Caucasian, and develop as he may in the progress of events. These views are also entertained by very large numbers of people, and usually prevail most where this questionable race prevails the least. Those who entertain them are mainly guided by the light of Christian sentiment, and by the political principles established at our independence, but they do not solve the question. They only shift the difficulty. They reach the question of the African slave, but not the question of the African, which is by far the most difficult.

The former solution, which is directly antagonistic to this, also ends the question of the slave; but stops at that of the African. I only follow the path of the great men whose names grace the records of your society, when I declare the first solution untenable, unsound in principle and policy; and that both solutions involve serious injury, if not ruin, to our national interests. Ideas constitute the true life of moral and political organizations. They are to these what the blood is to the human system, what the will is to our other faculties; they are the motors, more or less comprehended, of all the vast machinery which creates history. The most powerful thing in the universe is an idea. The wind, the earthquake, the storm, the lightning may inflict their local devastation; but man will retrieve it. An idea possessing the mind of man or a nation may elevate, degrade, or destroy man himself, or an entire nation. It nobly moves martyrs to the stake, patriots to the scaffold, whole armies to the blazing muzzles of deadly artillery. It may also move religion to inflict the cruelties of torture, the criminal to the dungeon, and a nation to infidelity, the guillotine, and civil war. How fatal, then, is such a conflict! How much to be avoided, if possible. A nation may fight for a boundary, or a fact; may acquire it, relinquish it, adjust it, and the contest is ended. But let the contest be for conflicting ideas—there may be truces, cartels of suspension, hospital neutralities, and humane courtesies; but the contest is never ended save by the suppression of one idea under the acknowledged dominion of the other. History is full of illustrations of this truth; but our own country, perhaps, furnishes the most complete example of the moral necessity of harmony in its controlling ideas.

Thus, one idea which animated our fathers on this continent, and which permeated the Declaration of Independence, was personal freedom as the natural, rightful status of all men. The gate of progress must stand open to every branch of the human race. All obstructions to the universality of this idea were to be removed at some time more or less quickly; but were to disappear in the future. Bondage was inherently wrong, but might be endured for a while, so the conflict should end by its gradual disappearance. The papers of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Lafayette, verify this statement; and, indeed, it is admitted within the last two years by the leading

advocates of the theory which I am examining. While the universality of the right of personal freedom, the transiency of personal bondage, continued to be animating ideas in the administration of our institutions, the wheels of the Republic moved as harmoniously as the doors of Heaven—

“On golden hinges turning.”

But in proportion as antagonistic and despotic ideas grew in magnitude, organizing the perpetuity of personal bondage, with the right to dispose of an entire race at public vendue, a necessary conflict arose. Both ideas could not expand in the same jurisdiction. They asserted a conflicting dominion. Our present generation of public men has been educated under the influences of this conflict. They are not, properly speaking, ruled by leading men, nor by a party, but by ideas. No Christian doubts that the one of these ideas which God supports will prevail, be it sooner or later. Most disastrously for the country, the contest has at this moment ceased to be visibly influenced by the prayers of the good, the plans of the wise, and the arguments of the logician. In a similar contest of ideas became a contest of arms, in England. John Milton, said: “I care not what error is let into the field, so truth be left free to combat it.” Far happier for us had this maxim controlled our great debate, and prevented the gathering of the first stack of muskets.

The census furnishes some interesting facts which indicate the gradual retrogression of the old ideas. In the first decennial period from 1790 to 1800, the increase per cent of *free* blacks was 82. The decade from 1820 to 1830, shows 36 per cent. That from 1850 to 1860, gives only 10 per cent, showing a decreasing range of variation of 72 per cent. In the same time, the per centage increase of slaves, including the decade ending in 1810, when the increase was stimulated by the last year of a tolerated slave trade, varied upon a decreasing range of only 10 per cent. Manumission diminished as our fathers departed from their labors.

The records of your own Society, sir, confirm my representations of the early ideas and policy, and show that itself was established under the influence of the humane and progressive doctrines of our fathers. Judge WASHINGTON, your first President, in his first annual address, speaks of your purpose as “that enlarged and beneficent plan, which associates the *political emancipation* and future comfort of an unfortunate class of men with the civilization and happiness of an afflicted, oppressed and degraded quarter of our globe.” * * *

* * * “Should it lead, as we may fairly hope it will, to the slow but gradual abolition of slavery, it will wipe from our political institutions the only blot which stains them.”

Just before the same anniversary, General HARPER wrote you from Baltimore in aid of your plan, and said: “It tends, and may powerfully tend, to rid us, gradually and entirely, in the United States, of slaves and slavery: a great moral and political evil, of in-

creasing virulence and extent, from which much mischief is now felt, and very great calamity in future is justly apprehended." * *

In the same letter he says further :

* * "The alarming danger of cherishing in our bosom a distinct nation, which can never become incorporated with us, while it rapidly increases in numbers, and improves in intelligence; learning from us the arts of peace and war, the secret of its own strength, and the talent of combining and directing its force—a nation which must ever be hostile to us, from feeling and interest, because it can never incorporate with us, nor participate in the advantages we enjoy; the danger of such a nation in our bosom need not be pointed out to any reflecting mind. It speaks not only to our understandings, but to our very senses; and, however it may be derided by some, or overlooked by others, who have not the ability or the time, or do not give themselves the trouble to reflect on and estimate properly the the force and extent of those great moral and physical causes which prepare gradually, and at length bring forth the most terrible convulsions in civil society, it will not be viewed without deep and awful apprehension by any who shall bring sound minds and some share of political knowledge and sagacity to the serious consideration of the subject. Such persons will give their most serious attention to any proposition which has for its object the eradication of this terrible mischief lurking in our vitals."

While General Harper so powerfully portrayed this cause of alarm, he failed to foresee the danger then springing from another cause, which this unhappy epoch so effectually illustrates. He forgot the ethnological characteristic of the Caucasian himself, that he will fight for a grand idea of humanity, or of God, even when he finds no personal interest involved. He will fight to preserve, as well as to establish, certain traditional ideas of social or political organization. He will do this before the duller African mind has comprehended the same idea, although aided by his greatest personal interest. Had he been gifted with prophetic vision, he would have seen new ideas then organizing the perpetual bondage of a foreign race in our midst; organizing resistance to the spirit of our political institutions, and to the spirit of our fathers breathing through them; marshalling to their aid the powers of the press, the party, of prejudice and self-interest; and restricting the freedom of the press, the voice, and the vote on this subject. On the other side, he would have seen the original ideas of the ultimate universality of freedom organizing the battle for their own perpetuation more slowly, but equally surely; gathering to their aid, also, press, party, pulpit, and all other auxiliaries, whether of generosity or of interest. His country's heaven would have appeared dark with these gathering hosts, flashing mutual threatenings athwart the blue union which still embraced them both; until at last the lurid thunderbolt should burst upon the earth, the vision dissolving in the terrors of reality.

Although the grounds of alarm suggested by Jefferson, by Harper, and by many others, did then, and do still beyond doubt exist, yet

the greater cause of alarm has been found in the influence of this population upon the political and social temper of the white race. So long as liberty and despotism are hostile elements in the world, and man's aspirations go forth to the one or the other, so long will this black ingredient in our national cup stir up adversities among our people, upon varying grounds of principle, of morality, of religion, of policy, or of humanity. Free thought must itself be fettered, and some of the grandest ideas and aspirations which it ever pleased the Almighty to plant in the breast of man, must become extinct, before the American people will rest content without progress in one direction or the other. With the fundamental relations of our political institutions to this question, what I have shown them to have been, what your own records prove them to be; with a revolutionary antagonism of ideas operating logically, to reverse them, during thirty years; next a popular decree in 1860 for the perpetuity of the ideas of '76 and '89, followed by resistance to this determination by arms; in this sentence is the whole significance of the present crisis, so far as the two races are concerned. It is a war involving the perpetuation of the ideas of '76 and '89, against the ideas of '32 and '54. The calamity anticipated by the wisest and best of our patriot sires has fallen upon the country, though in a different form from that predicted. The dominant race which once introduced this element of discord into the country almost exclusively suffers from the contest; while the subject race, by a species of Divine Justice, instead of finding its bondage made perpetual, avails itself of the general disorder of its own relations to escape from its bondage. Such appears to me to be the condensed philosophy of the past, in the midst of which, your Society has stood—

———"Like Atlas firm,
Though storms and tempests beat upon his brow,
And oceans break their billows at his feet."

As the result of this disorder, precipitated by the interest which professed above all other fears to dread such disorder, many thousands of freedmen are thrown upon the country, and in no contingency can be reclaimed to servitude. Many of these freedmen will become acquainted with the use of arms, and with military evolutions; many of them will constitute military organizations for exceptional service.

Now, sir, when this war is ended, and however ended, what a magnificent preparation is made for the separate progress of this race, and for the progress of colonization! Whether slavery remains to perpetuate the struggle against the imperishable ideas of the founders of our nationality, or itself presently or prospectively perishes, restoring harmony to all our institutions, in either event a new vigor and a new support should be given to the operations of colonization.

Take, if you please, the hypothesis that personal servitude con-

tinues. Here are thousands of Africans, freedmen, who to remain free must extricate themselves from the scenes, the climate, the ties to which they have been accustomed, and must labor among strangers, deprived of the society of their own race in many cases, and of the means of gratifying the social instinct so strong with that people. While enjoying his natural rights, he will not be admitted to, nor fitted for, the regulated civil rights which would imply the equality of the races. What road to the pursuit of happiness is open to him as a freedman, other than migration to a colony where his own race legitimately opens to him all the privileges of social and political equality? There he may use all the agricultural and mechanical arts he has acquired in America, and make them the instruments of personal independence, civil elevation, and wealth.

Then take your military organizations of that race; no use for them remains after the special emergency has passed, which called them into existence. They will not be retained in a reduced military establishment, not disposed to return to the dull routine of labor, forced among strangers, and possessed of the advanced ideas which would be inculcated by their military training; what shall they do but emigrate to a congenial climate, where they may the more effectually for their new training, serve to extend civilization by increasing both the civil and military power of the colony. They should be the explorers of the interior of that great continent to which your eyes have been so long directed. Livingstone's explorations have not only disclosed the existence in that interior of animal wealth, but also of mineral wealth, and of high and healthy plains and valleys. These military colonists, accustomed to discipline and hardy exercises, and capable of fighting their way, if necessary, should in the course of a few years crown and surpass the labors of Park and Maxwell, and Livingstone, and of others who have painfully sought the course of the Niger, and the sources of the Nile. That almost fabulous mineral wealth exists in the interior of Africa, no geographer can doubt. The domestic African lacks the intelligence to discover or develop it. The Caucasian lacks the physical characteristics to endure the climate. What remains but a loud call to the more intelligent African race in America, which has produced an astronomer like Banneker, a philanthropic voyager like Captain Paul Cuffee, to assume the discovery, and if necessary, the conquest of Ethiopia and its geological treasures, hidden for ages. The earth there awaits the arrival of this more intelligent part of the race to return to us an exuberance of such staples as coffee, cotton, and other tropical products which insure wealth to intelligent labor. Sir, there are two thoughts we must banish from our minds, that Ethiopia is the blank represented on the maps of our boyhood; and that the Almighty intended to exclude forever the African race from all participation in the progress of the human race in knowledge and enterprise.

If, on the other hand, this personal servitude is ended by the war, the foregoing views receive additional force.

I am not reckoned with those who think the African here is useless unless a slave. It is true that America does not belong to him, but to the Caucasian; Africa is his heritage; America is ours.

But his sudden removal would not only be impracticable, but inexpedient. Let him go gradually, and the white race gradually occupies the lands vacated. He is not welcome as a freedman to the colder States. He will not go there when he can remain, as a freedman, in the warmer States, and among his own people.

This reduces the question to his condition in the States where he has been a slave. In cases where his treatment has been controlled by the law of kindness, which I believe will embrace the majority of cases, the change would hardly be sensible. The master calls his servants and says to them, "you are freemen; you are entitled to wages for so much labor as you do for me; I can't sell you now if I wish to, nor can anybody buy you; but I can turn you off my plantation if you do not work well, and behave well. If you stay with me, you must do both; I will feed you and your families, and clothe you, and give you what more you may earn. When you show me what you will do, I can tell you what I will pay you beside. If you don't earn your living, because you won't work, I will drive you off."

Who has lived in the midst of this race and does not know that no other law or regulation would be needed by the great majority of the race, when governed by one who understood their character.

But while this would serve the purpose with the greater number, there would inevitably be some whose vicious and wasteful qualities would subject them to banishment.

Leaving without a character, they would be rejected when applying for employment elsewhere. Others would be arrested, as whites are, for infractions of the penal law. The objections to voluntary and compulsory emancipation have always been that freedmen would become vicious, and would corrupt the slaves. It may at first appear paradoxical, but it is true nevertheless, that this apprehension was more justifiable when freedmen were the exceptions than it would be when all are freedmen. In the former case, he was regarded with suspicion by the master, and perhaps with envy by the slave. He had a status between the two, and admitted to an equality with neither. When all are free the master fears nothing but positive vices. He fears no loss of property. The late slave and the former freedman are then equal, and subject to the same laws and rules of humanity.

Still there would be a necessity to provide for the only two evils which the white race, living in the midst of freedmen, would fear—vagrancy and crime. All other ills would be corrected by the common law of kindness extended by the superior to the inferior, by the laws of society and of self-interest. In other respects, the hypothetical change of institutions would be effected with hardly a ripple

upon the surface of daily duties on the plantation of an upright master. * * *

I propose the subject for the consideration of a Society which has always been characterized by a regard for the best interest of both races; and upon which it is possible new duties may be imposed by the extraordinary events now transpiring, and by the prospective legislation of the several States, or of the United States, opening the way. If they make special provision for the unproductive and vicious portions of the race, the country would wait more patiently for such enlargement of the means of colonization as shall induce an emigration equal to the annual increase of that race within the United States. This rate of increase may be estimated for the future at about two per cent., or about 80,000 per annum. During the last census decade the ordinary commercial facilities afforded means for introducing, on the average, about 270,000 immigrants into the United States annually. With the removal of the increase, therefore, which is practicable, time would terminate the domestic contact of the races in the United States.

In any event, your Liberian colony will continue the honorable and progressive home of the voluntary emigrant. I would not propose to change its character a hair's breadth. It is a splendid memorial to the memory of Finley and Mercer, of Washington and Harper, of Caldwell and Clay, and of the early patriots and philanthropists of this country. With its many thousands of civilized Africans, its fifty churches, its college and schools, its organized and independent Government, let it kindle new beacon lights of Christianity and education along the headlands of the Atlantic coast, and upon the hill tops of the interior, until Ethiopia receives the baptism, and rises from her knees regenerated and disenthralled.

The Society then adjourned to meet at the Society's office at 12 o'clock to-morrow.

On Wednesday, at 12 o'clock, the Society met according to adjournment, when the President took the chair.

On motion, the reading of the proceedings of the last year's meeting was omitted.

The Rev. John Maclean, D. D., Hon. Daniel Baldwin, and Hon. William V. Pettit were appointed a committee to nominate the officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

After a short retirement, Dr. Maclean, chairman of the committee, nominated the following gentlemen as officers, who were unanimously elected:

President :

Hon. JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

Vice Presidents :

1. Gen. John H. Cocke, of Virginia.
2. Rev. Jeremiah Day, D. D., of Connecticut.
3. Moses Allen, Esq., of New York.
4. Rev. Jas. O. Andrew, D. D., of Alabama.
5. Hon. Walter Lowrie, of New York.
6. Stephen Duncan, M. D., of Mississippi.
7. Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Virginia.
8. James Boorman, Esq., of New York.
9. Henry Foster, Esq., do.
10. Robert Campbell, Esq., of Georgia.
11. Hon. Peter D. Vroom, of New Jersey.
12. Hon. James Garland, of Virginia.
13. Hon. Willard Hall, of Delaware.
14. Rt. Rev. James H. Otsey, D. D., of Tenn.
15. Gerard Ralston, Esq., of England.
16. Thomas Hodgkin, M. D., of England.
17. Rev. E. Burgess, D. D., of Massachusetts.
18. Thomas R. Hazard, Esq., of Rhode Island.
19. Thomas Massie, M. D., of Virginia.
20. Gen. Winfield Scott, U. S. A.
21. Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, of New Jersey.
22. James Rally, Esq., of Mississippi.
23. Rev. W. B. Johnson, D. D., of S. Carolina.
24. Rt. Rev. C. P. McIlvaine, D. D., of Ohio.
25. Hon. J. R. Underwood, of Kentucky.
26. James Leux, Esq., of New York.
27. Rev. Joshua Soule, D. D., of Tenn.
28. Rev. T. C. Upham, D. D., of Maine.
29. Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio.
30. Hon. Thomas W. Williams, of Conn.
31. Rev. John Early, D. D., of Virginia.
32. Rev. Lovick Pierce, D. D., of Georgia.
33. Hon. R. J. Walker, of New Jersey.
34. John Bell, M. D., of Pennsylvania.
35. Rev. Robert Ryland, of Virginia.
36. Hon. Fred. P. Stanton, of Kansas.
37. Hon. James M. Wayne, of Georgia.
38. Hon. Robert F. Stockton, of New Jersey.
39. Hon. Edward Everett, of Massachusetts.
40. Hon. Washington Hunt, of New York.
41. Hon. Horatio Seymour, do.
42. Hon. Joseph A. Wright, of Indiana.
43. Hon. Jos. C. Hornblower, of New Jersey.
44. Hon. George F. Fort, do.
45. Gen. John S. Darcy, do.
46. Hon. Ralph I. Ingersoll, of Conn.
47. Benjamin Silliman, L. L. D., Conn.
48. Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, of Penn.
49. Hon. Edward Coles, of Penn.
50. Rev. Howard Malcom, D. D., of Penn.
51. Rev. J. P. Durbin, D. D., of N. Y.
52. Edward McGehee, Esq., of Mississippi.
53. Thomas Henderson, Esq., do.
54. Daniel Turnbull, Esq., of Louisiana.
55. Hon. Thomas H. Seymour, of Conn.
56. Rev. O. C. Baker, D. D., of N. Hampshire.
57. Rev. E. S. James, D. D., of N. Y.
58. Rev. Matthew Simpson, D. D., of Md.
59. Rev. Levi Scott, D. D., of Delaware.
60. Rev. E. R. Gurley, of D. C.
61. E. R. Alberti, Esq., of Florida.
62. Hon. J. J. Ormond, of Alabama.
63. Hon. Daniel Chandler, of Alabama.
64. Rev. Robt. Paine, D. D., of Miss.
65. Hon. J. J. Crittenden, of Kentucky.
66. Rev. R. J. Breckinridge, D. D., of Ky.
67. Solomon Sturges, Esq., of Illinois.
68. Rev. T. A. Morris, D. D., of Ohio.
69. Henry Stoddard, Esq., of Ohio.
70. Rev. E. R. Ames, D. D., of Indiana.
71. Rev. James C. Finley, of Illinois.
72. Hon. Edward Bates, of Missouri.
73. Hon. John F. Darby, do.
74. Rev. N. L. Rice, D. D., of New York.
75. Hon. J. B. Crockett, of California.
76. Hon. H. Dutton, of Connecticut.
77. David Hunt, Esq., of Mississippi.
78. Hon. George F. Patten, of Maine.
79. Richard Hoff, Esq., of Georgia.
80. Henry M. Schieffelin, Esq., of N. Y.
81. W. W. Seaton, Esq., of D. C.
82. Rev. John Mecklen, D. D., of N. J.
83. Richard T. Haines, Esq., do.
84. Freeman Clark, Esq., of Maine.
85. William H. Brown, Esq., of Illinois.
86. Hon. Ichabod Goodwin, of N. H.
87. Hon. John Bell, of Tennessee.
88. William E. Dodge, Esq., of New York.
89. Hon. L. H. Delano, of Vermont.
90. Robert H. Ives, Esq., of Rhode Island.
91. Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., of New York.

On motion, the Society then adjourned to meet on the third Tuesday of January, 1834, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M., in such place in Washington city as shall be designated and announced by the Executive Committee.

MACQUEEN'S VIEW OF THE PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS IN AFRICA.

In taking a general survey of Africa it is at once evident and undeniable that the Portuguese possessions or dominions in Southern Africa are the most valuable and most important and useful portion of that vast and hitherto neglected continent. Extending along the east coast 1,000 geo. miles, and along the west coast 700, they command the entrance into every part of the interior, well known to be comparatively healthy, and all fertile, capable of producing every article of agricultural produce that is known in the tropical world. Their claim also to most of the interior is preferable and well known. More than one river, especially the Zambeze, opens up to some distance a communication with countries in the interior more remote. It is also in many places very populous, but these people are generally engaged in internal wars. The greatest misfortune that ever befel Portugal was the withdrawal of her attention from Africa to the Brazils, and the removing of such multitudes of her population from the former to the latter. In Africa itself her population can be best and most profitably employed, and that employment only can regenerate Africa, and raise her to wealth, independence, and civilization, so as to become useful to herself and to the rest of the world. The ablest Portuguese statesmen now clearly understand this truth, and their exertions will shortly produce in Southern Africa as great a revolution in the commerce of the world as the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope did soon after it was made.

It is rather a singular fact that scarcely any of the great African rivers have their navigation unobstructed. The Nile cannot be navigated throughout its great length of 3,000 miles: for more than 1,500 miles of its middle course it cannot be safely navigated. The Zambeze is not navigable in its upper course, and has even some most serious obstructions in its lower. On both coasts nearly all the rivers have their mouths blocked up by sand banks and stones. The great Orange river, after a course of more than 1,000 miles, enters the sea a diminutive stream. The Cunene is completely blocked up at its mouth by sandbanks. The Coanza is only navigable for a short distance, and this for very small vessels. The Zaire or Congo has a wide and deep mouth, but at a distance of 100 miles from the sea it descends over tremendous, impassable, and terrible cataracts and rapids. The Niger appears to be the most open of the whole through its long course of nearly 2,000 miles, but from Boussa * upwards for a considerable distance (perhaps 400 miles) there is good reason to believe that there are obstructions and dangers in the stream that will render the navigation thereof unsafe for vessels of any considerable burthen. The Senegal is only navigable for about 250 miles, and is on the whole a small stream. The mouths of the Luffia, the Juba, and the Dana, on the east coast, are all obstructed at their

* Mr. Macqueen speaks of great obstructions in the Niger, but the Sunbeam has ascended this river for sixty miles.

mouths or in the lower parts of their course, and can never afford much assistance to reach the more populous and fertile districts in the interior. It is also worthy of observation, that in most parts of the interior, particularly in the southern portion of the continent, we find the rivers running through a table-land, narrow, and sluggish, but deep, and then descending over rapids and cataracts to join their collected and concentrated outlets to the ocean nearer or more remote from their sources.

— 500 —
[From the New York Observer.]

DEATH OF A FRIEND OF THE SOCIETY.

Rev. Charles Cummins, D. D., died at Muscatine, Iowa, at the residence of his son-in-law, Dr. James S. Horton, in the 87th year of his age.

Dr. Cummins was born in Strasburg, Pa., July 15th, 1776. He commenced his classical studies at a Latin school on his father's farm, taught by a Mr. Sterrett. He was for a time a student at Mr. Cooper's Latin School, about five miles from Shippensburg. He also was a pupil of James Ross, author of Ross' Latin Grammar. Among his school-mates was the Rev. Dr. Herron, of Pittsburg. He was a graduate at Dickinson College, under the Presidency of Dr. Nesbit, about the year 1800. He was licensed, as near as can be ascertained, in 1803. His first settlement as a pastor was at Chestnut Level, Pa., where we find him in 1804. As early as 1808 he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church, in Florida, Orange Co., New York. Here he had for parishoners Judge Seward, and his son, now the Hon. Wm. H. Seward. Dr. Cummins was highly gratified at receiving an autograph letter from Mr. Seward, a few weeks before his death. While in Florida, he was invited to take charge of a church in Washington city, but declined, and with the exception of a year which he spent in Virginia, as agent for the American Colonization Society, he continued his labors in Florida, until 1849, when he resigned his pastoral charge.

In 1852, he removed to Muscatine, where he has since resided. He received his degree of D. D., in 1830, from the College of St. John, at Annapolis. Dr. Cummins was three times married. His first wife, Mary Rowena Morris, by whom he had one child, died in 1806. His second, Sarah Lisie Gamble, daughter of a Professor in the University of Pa., and a cousin of Governor Gamble, of Me., died in 1832. By her he had six children: Thomas Archibald, a merchant in New York; Mrs. Dr. Horton, of Muscatine; James S. L., a lawyer, of the firm of Cummins, Alexander & Green, of New York; Rev. John L. Cummins, who died pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Keokuk, Iowa, in 1852; Mrs. Jacob Butler, who died in Muscatine in 1849, and Francis Markoe, a Lieut. Colonel in the 124th reg., N. Y. Volunteers. His third wife was Margaret McCulloh, a sister of the wife of Rev. Dr. Ashbel Green. She died in Muscatine in 1852.

He was a "good man, full of faith and of the Holy Ghost." He possessed a vigorous frame, a strong constitution, good mental powers, was a laborious and successful pastor, a practical, instructive and forcible preacher. He was, in the highest sense of the term, a Christian gentleman; and to the close of his life, he never forgot the injunction, "Be courteous." His thoughts of late years have been often with his former people in Florida. He greatly desired to visit them again before he died. He preached his last sermon in 1856. Since then he has loved the house of God, and seldom been absent from it. He was able to attend the sanctuary up to a week before his death. His whole life is a proof that God is faithful to his promises. To the last he was a living witness of the power of Christianity to make one cheerful and happy. He passed gently away, and "died in a good old age, an old man and full of years." He rests from his labors, and his works do follow him.

ENGLISH CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

YORUBA MISSION.—The Committee of the Church Missionary Society has issued a call for special prayer in behalf of the missionaries and Christians, and the people generally of Abbeokuta, West Africa, presenting the following statements in regard to the very trying and dangerous position in which they are placed.

The circumstances of our mission in the Yoruba country, at the present time, are such as may well arrest the attention of all Christians, and especially those who are the friends and supporters of the Church Missionary Society.

Bahadung, King of Dahomey, imitating the example of his father Gezo in 1851, captured, in March last, Ishagga, a Yoruba town lying westward of Abbeokuta, and towards the frontiers of Dahomey, slaying on the spot one-third of its population, and carry the remainder into captivity; and, amongst the rest, Thomas Doherty, our native catechist, and his little flock of native converts. Doherty has since suffered, at Abomey, the cruel death of crucifixion, many, if not all, his Christian brethren, together with numbers of the heathen chiefs and people of Ishagga, having been decapitated at the same time, to grace the annual "customs."

Amidst the wild excitement of these terrible scenes, the drunkenness, and the blood, Bahadung promised his soldiers, men and amazons, to lead them against Abbeokuta in November, that they might spoil and waste, as they had Ishagga.

Compared with 1851, the position of Abbeokuta at the present time is an isolated one. While the Dahomians are marching against it from the west, the Ibadans are in arms against it on the east: nay, more, the unhappy refusal of the king and chiefs to receive a British consul, has separated it from the advice and aid of the British authorities on the coast.

Yet let it be remembered that we have now, in this endangered city, the following valuable missionaries, with the wives and children of some of them:—the Rev. H. Townsend, the Rev. G. F. Buhler, the Rev. J. B. Wood; also the native Clergymen, the Rev. Thomas King and the Rev. W. Moore; together with Dr. A. A. Harrison, and three European catechists. Let it also be remembered that we have forty native helpers, male and female, in this city, together with 1,500 native Christians, of whom 500 are communicants.

Are these valuable? Oh, how much so! Shall they be delivered up, without an effort, to the cruelties of Dahomey. This vineyard, which the hand of the Lord has planted, shall the boar out of the wood waste it, and the wild beast of the field devour it?

—000—

[From the Missionary Advocate.]

AFRICAN MISSION.

MORE LABORERS.—Bishop Burns, in late communications to us, speaks earnestly of the need of more laborers; he also speaks hopefully of the prospect of the gift of some among themselves. His affecting statement of the heart's desire of the people to that end aids our faith in God, that from among the mission Churches planted on that distant coast, the children born among them will rise up to say, "Here am I, send me." I am weary and cannot forbear.

EMIGRATION.—In the Bark Ann, which left our port in the month of November, Rev. Mr. Blyden, Professor in the Liberia College, was among the passengers. If it please the heavenly Father to bring him to his desired haven, Liberia will be benefited anew with his labors. Other laborers,

among them Rev. Professor Crummell, have left for that field in the "M. C. Stevens." Several persons, among whom were those qualified to teach in their common schools, and to advance their agricultural interests, sailed in that vessel.

CONSUL GENERAL.—It is gratifying to state that the Rev. Dr. Pinney, for many years the corresponding secretary of the N. Y. Colonization Society, has been acknowledged by the United States Government as consul for the Republic of Liberia.

COMMERCE.—There was a decided increase in the exports and imports of Liberia during the past year, which is the result of the advanced stages of agriculture and manufactures in the republic.

EDUCATION.—This cause is likely to be somewhat furthered by the appropriations made at the late session of the legislature. Every aspect in which we look at the young republic there is ground of encouragement for the friends of the religious and civil conditions of the people.

[From the Times newspaper, Eng.]

Sierra Leone.

The Colonial "Blue Book," recently issued, comprises reports from our settlements on the west coast of Africa.

From Sierra Leone we learn that the census taken in 1860, found a population of 41,624, with 11,418 dwellings; 15,782 of the population were liberated Africans, and 22,593 had been born within the limits of the colony. Of the whole population only 3,351 remained Pagans, and only 1,734 were Mahommedans; 15,180 were Methodists, and 12,954 Episcopalians. 11,016 children were taught in the schools in the year. The Governor reports that the customs receipts have increased to £20,000, and that the internal trade of the colony is steadily growing, owing partly to the number of small native traders who have started in business of late years, and partly to facilities afforded by credit being given for import duties. British protection supplies a stimulus to native improvement and enterprise, and the population are rapidly learning the general customs of civilized society, engaging in commercial transactions with surprising diligence and avidity, submitting on the one hand to the various necessary imposts, and on the other gladly reaping the benefits of enlarged communication, and in many instances amassing wealth, enabling them to vie with European enterprise. Sierra Leone is thus proving not only a refuge for those who are rescued from slavery, but a nucleus of civilization and school of Christian teaching.

M. Jules Gerard in Liverpool.

This celebrated African traveler has been in Liverpool some days past. M. Gerard contemplates an exploration journey into Central Africa. His chief aim will be to find a spot for the establishment of an independent settlement. This will probably be found in the mountainous regions of the interior, between Sierra Leone and the sources of the Niger. The object of this settlement is to extend the relations between Europe and the interior of Africa.—*Liverpool Albion.*

The Arab Chiefs at Compiègne.

The Arab chiefs who are now guests at Compiègne, have, it appears, obtained, to use a theatrical phrase, "a great success." The quiet dignity of their deportment, and their remarkable sobriety, are admired by all. They spend an hour at prayer in the morning, and at nine they are served with a cup of milk and coffee. They partake of a frugal breakfast in their apartments at twelve. The six chiefs are of lofty stature, which is set off to advantage by their dress. Four of them wear the insignia of Commander of the Legion of Honor, and two, that of Officers, of the same order. The Commanders wear the cordon round the neck, over a rosary of amber beads. Two speak French very well; three understand, but speak it imperfectly, and one only does not either speak or understand it.—*Paris Letter.*

—000—

RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

From the 20th of December, 1862, to the 20th of January, 1863.

MAINE.

Bath—Bath Colonization Society, from the following list of Rodney Hyde, Treasurer: George F. Patten, \$25. Wm. Drummond, \$5. G. M. Patten & Co., \$2. James Oliver, \$1. H. Hildreth, \$1. John Patten, \$10. Benjamin Riggs, \$2. E. K. Harding, \$1. Roland Fisher, \$1. F. Partridge, \$1. John Shaw, \$1. Freeman Clark, \$5. Wm. M. Rogers, \$2. Chas. Davenport, \$1. E. Arnold, \$2. Thos. Harward, \$10. E. S. J. Nealley, \$2. Rev. Mr. Durell, \$2. D. Patten, \$1. N. C. A. Jenks, \$1. John O. Fiske, \$5. L. W. Houghton, \$1. Wm. M. Reed, \$1. H. W. Owen, \$1. J. R. Houghton, \$1. James F. Patten, \$5. Sarah G. Clark, \$5. D. T. Stinson, \$2. A. R. Mitchell, \$1...

\$98 00

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

By Rev. F. Butler, (\$3:)

Francestown—Rev Charles Cutler

3 00

VERMONT.

By Rev. F. Butler, (\$17:)

Newbury—Cong. Church and Soc., by Rev. H. N. Burton. 12 00
Windsor—A Friend..... 2 00
Woodstock—Mrs. Martha M. Tucker

3 00

MASSACHUSETTS. 17 00

Northampton—Mrs. G. W. Talbot, for Libera College, \$5. Col. Society, \$5..... 10 00
Worcester—Legacy of J. H. Kendall, late of Leominster, \$1,000; less discount for prompt payment \$20.. 980 00

CONNECTICUT. 990 00

By Rev. John Orcutt, (\$58.50:)
Guilford—Mrs. Sarah Griffing, \$3. Rev. T. L. Bennett, \$2. Rev. W. S. Smith, and others, \$10 15 00
Rockville—C. Winchell, A. Bailey, each \$5. A. R. Chapin, Clark Holt, each \$2. W. Butler, W. T. Cogswell, Cyrus Winchell, each \$1. Dwight Loomis, \$3. Collection in M. E. Church, \$3 50..... 23 50
Glastenbury—J. B. Williams, \$3. George Plummer, \$5. Benjamin Taylor, E. A. Hubbard, each \$3. Mrs. Jerasha Hubbard, \$1..... 20 00

58 50

NEW YORK.
New York State Col. Soc.,
by Rev. J. B. Pinney, in part
to pay for emigrants' pas-
sage 200 00

NEW JERSEY.
New Jersey Col. Soc. to be
appropriated to the benefit
of their settlement in Libe-
ria 275 00

DELAWARE.
Wilmington—Collection in
Hanover Presb. Church,
by Geo. Jones, Treasurer.. 13 00
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
Washington City—John P.
Ingle, an annual donation 10 00
Miscellaneous 1,399 44
1,409 44

OHIO.
By Rev. B. O. Plimpton, (\$91.50):
Cleveland—R. P. Spalding,
\$5. Mrs. R. S. Spalding,
\$1 4 00
Madison—Chester Smith, \$6.
M. Talcot, \$2 8 00
Kirtland—Harriet Martin-
dale, \$5. Samuel Gibbons,
\$2. Chester Hart, \$2.
Thomas Martindale, John
Parks, Alva Brown, each
\$5. C. G. Crary, \$2. D.
D. Morse, \$5. Ira Bond,
\$2. Jesse Tryon, \$5. H.
G. Tryon, \$1. Saml. Tom-
linson, \$3 42 00
Mentor—Thomas Morely, W.
N. Sperry, each \$10. M.
E. Gray, \$5 25 00
Willoughby—H. C. Billson,
\$5. Stephen Worrell, \$1.
Hesekiah Ferguson, \$2.
James J. A. Smith, O. W.
Devine, each \$1. Cash, 50
cents 10 50
91 50

For the Liberian Govern-
ment, received for interest
on funds of said Govern-
ment, invested in "United
States certificates of in-
debtedness" 880 80

FOR REPOSITORY.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Han-
cock—Anna Tuttle for 1863,
\$1. Gilmantown—Rev.
Joseph Blake, to May, '63,
\$2. Francestown—Herbert
Vose, in full, \$2 5 00
VERMONT—Woodstock—Lyn-
don A. Marsh, 1863 1 00
MASSACHUSETTS—Bos-
ton—Morris Fearing, \$1.
Northampton—Mrs. G. W.
Talbot, 1863, \$1 2 00
RHODE ISLAND—Pawcatuck,
Danl. Hale, to June, 1863. 3 00
CONNECTICUT—Norwich—
D. Buttolph for 1863, \$1.
South Windsor—S. T. Wol-
cott, 1862 and 1863, \$2... 3 00
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—
Georgetown—Miss Kate
Redin, to April, 1864 4 00
MARYLAND—Baltimore—
Mrs. H. Patterson, 1863... 1 00
OHIO—Palmyra—Stephen
Edwards for 1863, \$1.
Cincinnati—Young Mens'
Mercantile Library, 75 cts. 1 75
Total Repository 20 75
Donations 301 00
Legacies 980 00
Emigrants 476 00
Liberian Government 880 80
Miscellaneous 1,399 44
Aggregate amount...\$4,057 99

* CONNECTICUT.
By Rev. J. Orcutt, (\$68 :)
Litchfield—A friend, \$30, to
constitute Rev. Geo. Rich-
ards a life member. W.
H. Thompson, \$10. Mrs.
Thos. Marsh, Miss Pierce,
each \$5. Rev. Geo. Rich-
ards, G. C. Woodrun, each

\$3. G. Sanford, \$2. F.
D. McNeil, H. R. Coit, Miss
A. P. Thompson, Miss S.
E. Thompson, Miss Caro-
line Parmelee, J. William-
son, G. W. Thompson, E.
O. Barbour, R. Marsh, Rev.
J. Vinton, each \$1 \$68 00

[*The above was by mistake credited last month to Colchester.]

April 3, 1863

